



**PATENT APPLICATION**

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15 Sept 19  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q67848

Yoshiharu ARUGA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/024,643

Group Art Unit: 2853

Confirmation No.: 2776

Examiner: Blaise L. Mouttet

Filed: December 21, 2001

For: INK JET RECORDING APPARATUS, AND METHOD OF SUPPLYING INK TO SUB-TANK OF THE INK JET RECORDING APPARATUS

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 12, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## IN THE SPECIFICATION:

**The specification was amended as follows:**

**Last paragraph beginning on page 35 and ending on page 36 is amended as follows:**

A control signal for opening or closing the ink supply valve 26 is transmitted to a timer unit 112 by the consumed ink counter 109 for the sub-tank 7. The timer unit 112 starts a time count at the same time as the ink supply valve 26 is opened. When the level state detected by the Hall devices 33a and 33b still indicates a low ink state, even though a set time has elapsed, it can be assumed that the main tank 9 is in the ink exhausted (ink-out) state, or that for some reason an

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